(d) and (e) An area of 1426.59 ha covering different horticulture crops has been brought under cultivation in the State of Goa. Different types of horticulture crops raised in the State include Cashew, Mango, Kokum, Sapota, Banana, Pineapple, Spices, Medicinal Plants and Flowers. The area expansion and rejuvenation of Cashew has been taken up in the Taluka of Sanguem, Quepem, Canacona, Sattari and Pernem. Floriculture has been taken up in the areas of Salcete, Marmugao, Tiswadi and Bardez. Area expansion of Spices like Pepper and Nutmeg has been taken up in the areas of Ponda, Bicholim, Sanguem and Sattari. The area expansion of Banana and Pineapple has been taken up in the areas of Bicholim, Sattari, Ponda, Sanguem, Quepem and Canacona.

Co-operative education and training schemes

1527. SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any scheme for giving co-operative education and training;

(b) if so, name of the scheme/schemes;

(c) since when the scheme/schemes are in force;

(d) essential features of the schemes;

(e) whether the scheme(s) is in force in the State of Goa;

(f) if so, the financial assistance if any given to the State of Goa or other bodies for implementing the scheme;

(g) the activities carried out in the State under the scheme; and

(h) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (d) Government of India is implementing a Central Sector Scheme for Co-operative Education and training through National Cooperative Union of India (NCUI) and National Council for Cooperative Training (NCCT). This Scheme is in operation from IIIrd Five year Plan. Government of India is providing 100% grants-in-aid to NCUI to implement special scheme for intensification of cooperative education in the cooperatively under-developed States/areas of developed States and 20% of the grants-in-aid for the approved activities of the NCUI and 100% grants-in-aid to NCCT for implementing the training programmes through its constituent units i.e. Vaikunth Mehta National Institute of Cooperative Management, Pune (VAMNICOM), five (5) Regional Institutes of Cooperative Management (RICMs) and fourteen (14) Institutes of Cooperative Management (JCMs) situated throughout the country.

(e) to (h) The training needs in the State of Goa is being catered to by Dr. V.V. Patil Institute of Cooperative Management located at Pune and co-operative education field project a Ponda in Goa. Besides, Government of India is also providing financial assistance to Junior Cooperative Training

Centres (JCTCs) in Goa State through NCUI/Goa State Cooperative Union. During the current financial year, 2009-10, a provision of Rs.27.75 crore is available for implementing cooperative education and training programmes in the country including in the State of Goa. The main activities under the scheme is to oreanize need based training programmes and facilitate the process of human resource development to strengthen the cooperative movement in the state.

Promotion of organic farming

†1528. SHRI OM PRAKASH MATHUR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any plan to promote organic farming and to declare minimum support price for crops and oilseeds, so that small farmers could get fair price for their produce;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and whether it would be considered in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) Government is already promoting organic farming in the country through "National Project on Organic Farming" (NPOF), "National Horticulture Mission" (NHM) and "Technology Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture in North Eastern States, J&K, Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand" (TMNE).

Under NPOF, financial assistance is provided for capacity building through service providers, setting up of organic input production units, promotion of organic farming through training programmes, field demonstrations, setting up model organic farms and market development.

Under NHM and TMNE, promotion of organic farming has been included as a component and financial assistance is provided for organic cultivation of horticultural crops, setting up of vermi-compost units and organic farming certification.

Government announces each season Minimum Support Prices (MSP) for major agricultural commodities, including crops and oilseeds.

(c) Does not arise.

Use of cow-urine in making insecticide

†1529. SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of insecticides manufactured in India along with the percentage of insecticides which are imported;

(b) the percentage of imported materials that are used in the medicines manufactured in the country;

(c) whether any research is being undertaken to bring down this percentage;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.